

**MABAN COUNTY COVID 19 RESPONSE**  
**MABAN RISK COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT WORKING GROUP**  
**RUMOUR TRACKING AND MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE**  
**COVID-19 MABAN RUMOR TRACKING OVERVIEW DATED 14 SEPTEMBER 2020**



**Introduction:** This document contains rumor(s) that are collected from the Maban community (both refugees and host community) with feedback from the community included as well. The aim is to provide coordinated inter-agency feedback to the community.

**Methodology:** Information is collected by partners in the Maban RCCE working group through informal and formal discussions with the communities. The information is completed using a semi structured tool.

**PREVENTION & CURE**

**Rumour Brief (1):** Traders in Doro's Freedom Market say that COVID-19 can be treated by smelling or applying paraffin in the nose.

**Rumour Brief (2):** COVID-19 can be prevented locally by assembling different wild fruits and eating them.

**Rumour Brief (3):** COVID-19 has been there but it is going away.



**FACT: Drinking methanol, ethanol or bleach DOES NOT prevent or cure COVID-19 and can be extremely dangerous**

**Methanol, ethanol and bleach are poisons.** Drinking them can lead to disability and death. Methanol, ethanol and bleach are sometimes used in cleaning products to kill the virus on surfaces – however you should never drink them, directly inhale them or apply them in sensitive organs like nose. They will not kill the virus in your body. Instead, they will harm your internal organs. Paraffin has no role in the treatment of COVID-19. There is no treatment for the COVID-19 so far. However disease can be prevented by observing social distancing of 2 meters and practicing appropriate infection prevention and control measures.

**FACT: Most people who get COVID-19 recover from it**

**FACT: There are no medicines that can prevent or treat COVID-19**

Most people who get COVID-19 have mild or moderate symptoms and can recover thanks to supportive care. If you have a cough, fever and difficulty breathing seek medical care early -- call your health facility by telephone first. If you have fever and live in an area with malaria or dengue seek medical care immediately

## MYTHS

**Rumour Brief (1):** Youth are saying that COVID-19 cannot affect them because they are young. It only affects older people because they are weaker in their bodies.

**Rumour Brief (2):** Some elderly people in Maban have dyed their hair to black, so to appear as young because the virus kills the elderly and not the young people when Corona “comes”, they will not be recognized as elderly people.

**Rumour Brief (3):** The government has banned the use of face masks.



## FACT: People of all ages can be infected by the COVID-19 virus

People of all ages including Older people ,younger people and children can be infected by the COVID-19 virus. Older people and people with pre-existing medical conditions such as asthma, diabetes, hypertension and heart disease appear to be more vulnerable to becoming severely ill with the virus.

WHO advises people **of all ages** to take steps to protect themselves from the virus, for example by following good hand hygiene and good respiratory hygiene.

## FACT: The prolonged use of masks when properly worn, DOES NOT cause carbon dioxide intoxication nor oxygen deficiency

The prolonged use of masks can be uncomfortable. However, it does not lead to carbon dioxide intoxication nor oxygen deficiency. While wearing a medical mask, make sure it fits properly and that it is tight enough to allow you to breathe normally. Do not re-use a disposable mask and always change it as soon as it gets damp.

## The government of South Sudan has NOT banned the use of face masks!

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public/myth-busters>



Combined training of DRC Kaya outreach team, JRS Gendrassa outreach team, JRS Yusuf Batil outreach team and JRS Kaya outreach team

Held on 21 July 2020 at the DRC Field Office in Kaya refugee camp.

13 people attended the training with 06 from DRC and 07 from JRS totaling 08 male and 05 female trainees